



Attorney Docket No. 0756-7232

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:) Group Art Unit: 2871
Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.) Examiner: James A. Dudek
Serial No. 10/739,084) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
Filed: December 19, 2003) I hereby certify that this correspondence is
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) 2007.

Ashley M. Stamps

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Official Action mailed January 23, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on December 19, 2003; February 4, 2004; February 14, 2006; May 8, 2006; and October 30, 2006.

A further Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith and consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 20 are pending in the present application, of which claim 1 is independent. (Boxes 4 and 6 of the Office Action Summary appear to inadvertently omit claim 20 from the list of pending and rejected claims; however, the Applicant notes that in the *Amendment* filed on October 30, 2006, claim 20 was added, and it appears that claim 20 has been examined at page 2 of the Official Action.) For